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EXAMINER	
HUYNH, SON P	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2611	

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/357,764	NATHAN, GUY	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Son P. Huynh	2611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *03* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 August 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *11-16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *11-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant argues it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to replace a complicated keyboard with a simple on/off switch from Cohen. Applicant further argues it is improper to combine Martin and Cohen because Cohen does not suggest the claimed remote control device for controlling a plurality of functions of a jukebox device (col. 6, paragraph 3, lines 4-10). These arguments are respectfully traversed.

In response, Martin discloses a system comprising a plurality of jukeboxes (13). Each of jukebox comprises a keyboard (123) for providing signals representing user inputs to control operation of the jukebox (figure 1, col. 5, lines 48-50; col. 7, lines 18-31). Martin uses a keyboard to control electrical appliances (Jukeboxes) instead of a remote control device. However, Cohen discloses using a remote control device, such as the television cable network remote control unit (col. 3, lines 58-64) for providing signals representing user input to control operation of electrical appliances (col. 3, lines 40-64). Since the remote control unit (12) may be any suitable device, such as the television cable

network remote control unit (col. 3, lines 60-64), the remote control unit inherently can control plurality functions of electrical appliances such as television, jukebox, etc. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Martin to use a remote control device as taught by Cohen in order to give user convenience to access the electrical appliance. For example, instead of staying at the electrical appliance to turn the electrical appliance on/off, the user can stay at a convenient location, using the remote control to turn on/off the electrical appliance.

Therefore, it is proper to combine Martin and Cohen.

Applicant further argues non of the cited prior art teaches or suggests a remote control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control unit (page 7, paragraph 3).

In response, this argument is respectfully traversed. Martin discloses keyboard provides signal representing user inputs such as selection a key on the keyboard, the processing circuit receives, processes the signal associated with the selected key and provides data in response to the selected key (col.5, lines 45-49, col. 7, lines 18-30). Thus, the selected key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising identification code so that processing circuit can determine the selected key and controls the jukebox to perform function associated with the selected key. Martin does not specifically discloses the signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this

identification code on by the jukebox (electrical appliance) on the first use of the remote control unit.

Cohen discloses Learn Mode where the signal is transmitted from the remote control unit in response to user selection a function button in remote control unit in order to dedicate it to the operation of the switch of electrical appliance. The signal is received and converted it to a unique code to be compared with any subsequent signal received from a remote control unit (figure 3A; col. 4, line 55-col. 5, line 7). Thus, "the remote control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control unit" is broadly read on the remote control unit comprises button that triggers, when pressed, a signal comprising only unique code which facilitates the storing the unique code by the electrical appliance on Learn mode of the remote control unit. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Martin to use the teaching as taught by Cohen in order to allow the electrical appliance to recognize and access the request quickly since the unique code for the request control unit is already stored in the memory.

For the alternative rejection of claims 11-13, 15-16, Applicant further argues Mino and Cohen does not suggest a remote control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control

unit. The remote control 8 (in Mino) is not provided for controlling a plurality of functions of a jukebox device (page 8, paragraph 2).

In response, this argument is respectfully traversed. Mino discloses remote control unit 8 is equipped with the remote karaoke terminal apparatus 1. Karaoke customers are able to conduct various data input operations such as data selection using the remote control 8. Response to the operations conducted or the data input by the customer is displayed on the display of the operation panel of the terminal apparatus (col. 3, lines 1-10). Thus, the remote control 8 is provided for controlling a plurality of functions (i.e. karaoke data selection) of a jukebox device (karaoke terminal apparatus 1), and the remote control unit comprising a specific key triggers, when actuated, a signal so that the appropriate function is performed in response to the karaoke data selection. Mino further disclose providing ID code of the personal remote control in the output signals such as signal using infrared radiation to the remote terminal apparatus (col. 4, lines 47-63). Mino does not specifically discloses the signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code on by the jukebox (remote terminal apparatus/electrical appliance) on the first use of the remote control unit.

Cohen discloses Learn Mode where the signal is transmitted from the remote control unit in response to user selection a function button in remote control unit in order to dedicate it to the operation of the switch of electrical appliance. The signal is received and converted it to a unique code to be compared with any subsequent signal received from a remote control unit (figure 3A; col. 4, line 55-col. 5, line 7). Thus, "the remote

control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control unit" is broadly read on the remote control unit comprises button that triggers, when pressed, a signal comprising only unique code which facilitates the storing the unique code by the electrical appliance on Learn mode of the remote control unit. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mino to use the teaching as taught by Cohen in order to allow the electrical appliance to recognize and access the request quickly since the unique code for the request control unit is already stored in the memory.

Therefore, the combination of Mino and Cohen teaches system having specific functionalities that are controlled by a particular remote control unit that is authorized via an identification code (i.e. remote control unit that is authorized via unique code).

For the reason given above, rejections on claims 11-16 are analyzed as discussed below.

Claims 1-10 have been canceled.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed July 21, 1999 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

3. Applicant is required to provide a copy of the documents as indicated by a cross line in the IDS (paper No. 7) for consideration as to the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 11 –13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin et al. (US 5,355,302) in view of Cohen (US 6,198,408).

Regarding claim 11, Martin et al. teaches a jukebox system, comprising:

a plurality of jukebox devices 13, wherein each jukebox device includes a microprocessor 121, a storage device 93 for storing audiovisual information that can be reproduced by the jukebox device in response to user request, an audio system 129 for playing audio, a visual display 125 for displaying video, and a communication system 19 for enabling the jukebox to communicate through an audiovisual distribution network 15;

a server (central management system 11) remote to the jukebox device 13 that provides services to the jukebox device 13, wherein the server and the jukebox can communicate with each other through the distribution network 15, a plurality of control devices 123 for the jukebox devices, respectively, each of the control devices 123 being operable to control one of the jukebox devices when the jukebox device recognizes a control code transmitted from the control device 123 (see figure 1, col. 5, line 41-col. 6, line 57).

Martin discloses a plurality of keyboards for plurality of jukebox devices respectively, each of the keyboard being operable to control one of the jukebox device (col. 1, lines 5-48-50; col. 7, lines 18-26) instead of a remote control device. However, Cohen discloses using a remote control device, such as the television cable network remote control unit (col. 3, lines 58-64) for providing signals representing user input to control operation of electrical appliances (col. 3, lines 40-64). Since the remote control unit (12) may be any suitable device, such as the television cable network remote control unit (col. 3, lines 60-64), the remote control unit inherently can control plurality functions of electrical appliances such as television, jukebox, etc. Cohen additionally discloses if the two codes (identification code of command code/selected button

received via remote control in Learn mode and stored in memory and control code received in remote control in Operational mode) are not matched, display blink (col. 5, lines 1-40). Thus, the remote control being operable to control the jukebox (electrical appliance) only when the electrical appliance recognizes a control code comprising an identification code transmitted via the remote control (if the code is not recognized, display blink). Cohen further discloses converter device 100 is operable to store the identification code for use in comparing the control code comprising the identification code (code for identifying the command) sent by a remote control transmitter with the control code stored on in memory 106 of converter device to determine whether or not the converter device will respond to control codes from the remote control transmitter (see figures 2, 3A, 3B and col. 1, line 50-col. 2, line 49).

Martin also discloses keyboard provides signal representing user inputs such as selection a key on the keyboard, the processing circuit receives, processes the signal associated with the selected key and provides data in response to the selected key (col.5, lines 45-49, col. 7, lines 18-30). Thus, the selected key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising identification code so that processing circuit can determine the selected key and controls the jukebox to perform function associated with the selected key. Martin does not specifically discloses the signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code on by the jukebox (electrical appliance) on the first use of the remote control unit. However, Cohen discloses Learn Mode where the signal is transmitted from the remote control

unit in response to user selection a function button in remote control unit in order to dedicate it to the operation of the switch of electrical appliance. The signal is received and converted it to a unique code to be compared with any subsequent signal received from a remote control unit (figure 3A; col. 4, line 55-col. 5, line 7). Thus, "the remote control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code (identification code for the command/button) which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control unit" is broadly read on the remote control unit comprises button that triggers, when pressed, a signal comprising only unique code which facilitates the storing the unique code by the electrical appliance on Learn mode of the remote control unit.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Martin to use the teaching of unit remote control, storing identification code and comparing it with the control code, as taught by Cohen in order to remotely control the jukebox therefore giving the user convenience to access the electrical appliance. For example, instead of to be at the electrical appliance to turn the electrical appliance on/off, the user can stay at a convenience location, using the remote control to turn on/off the electrical appliance, and furthermore, to allow the electrical appliance to recognize and access the request quickly since the identification code of the control command/remote control is already stored in the memory.

Regarding claim 12, Cohen further teaches each of the converter device include a learning mode that enables the identification code (identification code for the button/command) to be obtained from the remote control and stored on the converter device 100 when the specific key (button on the remote control unit) is actuated and stored on the electrical appliance (see figures 2, 3A and col. 1, line 36-col. 2, line 7, col. 4, line 54-col. 5, line 7).

Regarding claim 13, Cohen further teaches the remote control transmitter is operable to activate and deactivate (on/off) the converter device 100 (see col. 2, lines 15-17).

Regarding claim 15, Cohen further teaches the learning mode as discussed in the rejection of claim 12. It is obvious that the learning mode is incorporated into an operating system of the television device in order to provide convenience for user to operate the system. However, neither Martin nor Cohen specifically discloses Learning mode being triggered by touching a special button displayed on the display device of the jukebox. Official Notice is taken that using touch screen to display buttons that allow user to instruct the display device to perform different functions is well known in the art. For example, the user uses touch screen to perform system configuration, to perform data selection, etc. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Martin and Cohen to use well-known teaching in the art in order to user to select data displayed on the screen easily.

Regarding claim 16, Martin in view of Cohen teaches a device as discussed in the rejection of claim 11. Cohen further discloses the remote control device has a plurality of keys (buttons) and operable to transmit a control code comprising an identification code (control code comprising identification code of the button/command) and at least one code of key that has been used (not available, or used for controlling the operation of another appliance (col. 4, lines 54-65). Cohen further discloses comparing the control code comprising the identification code (for the button/control/command) sent by the remote control stored on the appliance to determine whether the appliance will respond to the codes from the remote control (if matched, perform the function. If not, the electrical appliance will not respond by display blink – col. 4, line 54-col. 55, line 7).

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin et al. (US 5,355,302), Cohen (US 6,198,408) as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view of Nathan (US 6,308,204).

Regarding claim 14, Martin in view of Cohen teaches a system as discussed in the rejection of claim 11. However, neither Martin nor Cohen teaches the remote control is operable to activate and deactivate a payment device on the jukebox device.

Nathan discloses fee payment device 35 is coupled to input control circuit 3 (figure 1). Nathan further discloses system command module allows execution of functions which command the system to accept a required input by an infrared remote control device....

the manager can control all the setting which are possible with remote control (col. 7, line 21-col. 8, line 28). Obviously, the remote control is operable to activate and deactivate a payment device on the jukebox device in order to provide more convenience to the manager. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Martin and Cohen to use the teaching as taught by Nathan in order to remotely activate and deactivate the payment device thereby giving user more convenience.

7. Claims 11 –13 and 15-16 are alternatively rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mino et al. (US 5,980,261) in view of Cohen (US 6,198,408).

Regarding claim 11, Mino discloses karaoke system comprises host apparatus 2 communicates with plurality of remote karaoke terminals 1 via communication network 3. Host apparatus 2 provides karaoke data to plurality of remote karaoke terminal apparatus 2 (figure 1). Each remote karaoke terminal comprises operation control 19 for receiving control signals from remote control 8 and operation panel 7; central processing unit 4 includes a microprocessor; hard disk drive 6 for storing karaoke data. display 15 for displaying video output, speaker 11 (figure 1). Thus, jukebox device is met by remote karaoke terminal apparatus 1, wherein microprocessor is met by CPU 4; storage device is met by HDD 6; audio system is met by devices 10-12; display device is met by CRT display 15, communication system is met by communication network 3; server is met by host apparatus 2; remote control device is met by remote control 8;

Mino further discloses remote control 8 includes a remote control equipped with the terminal apparatus 1 and a personal remote control which belongs to each customer. The personal remote control is designed such that a unique ID code as a preamble code is included in the output signals such as signal using infrared radiation. When one customer is related to the ID code of the personal remote control of his/her own, the ID code of the personal remote control is considered to be his/her customer ID. Therefore, a customer having a personal remote control selects the song he/she want to sing at a remote terminal apparatus 1, the CPU 4 or the operation control portion 19 of the terminal apparatus 1 recognizes the customer ID by analyzing the input signal of the remote control 8. The CPU determines if the customer ID is stored in memory of the terminal apparatus; if the customer ID does not exist in the terminal 1, the CPU accesses the host apparatus 2 to download the corresponding customer record from host apparatus and stored in terminal apparatus 1. The terminal apparatus then generates a message according to predetermined message generation rules (col. 4, line 48-63). Inherently, the control code (signal received from remote control 8) comprises an identification code (code identifies the control/command) transmitted from the remote control, and the identification code is compared with the identification code stored in memory of terminal apparatus 8 to provide the requested data. Mino further discloses the customer record is stored in memory 2b of the host (figure 1). The terminal apparatus receives customer record from the host and stores the customer record. When a command is sent from the remote control 8 to request an operation of the terminal apparatus, the terminal apparatus compares ID code of the remote control

(personal remote control ID) with the code stored in terminal apparatus to recognize the customer/command to perform the function (col. 4, line 16-col. 5, line 16).

Mino further discloses remote control unit 8 is equipped with the remote karaoke terminal apparatus 1. Karaoke customers are able to conduct various data input operations such as data selection using the remote control 8. Response to the operations conducted or the data input by the customer is displayed on the display of the operation panel of the terminal apparatus (col. 3, lines 1-10). Thus, the remote control 8 is provided for controlling a plurality of functions (i.e. karaoke data selection) of a jukebox device (karaoke terminal apparatus 1), and the remote control unit comprising a specific key triggers, when actuated, a signal so that the appropriate function is performed in response to the karaoke data selection. Mino further disclose providing ID code of the personal remote control in the output signals such as signal using infrared radiation to the remote terminal apparatus (col. 4, lines 47-63). Mino does not specifically discloses the signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code on by the jukebox (remote terminal apparatus/electrical appliance) on the first use of the remote control unit, and the terminal apparatus will not respond if the codes do not match.

Cohen discloses Learn Mode where the signal is transmitted from the remote control unit in response to user selection a function button in remote control unit in order to dedicate it to the operation of the switch of electrical appliance. The signal is received and converted it to a unique code to be compared with any subsequent signal received from a remote control unit (figure 3A; col. 4, line 55-col. 5, line 7). Thus, "the remote

control unit comprising a specific key that triggers, when actuated, a signal comprising only the identification code which facilitates the storing of this identification code by the jukebox on the first use of the remote control unit" is broadly read on the remote control unit comprises button that triggers, when pressed, a signal comprising only unique code which facilitates the storing the unique code by the electrical appliance on Learn mode of the remote control unit.

Cohen further discloses a device does not respond if code entered in Operation mode using the remote control and code stored during Learning mode do not match (col. 1, line 30-col. 2, line 6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mimo to use the teaching as taught by Cohen in order to remotely control the jukebox and prevent unauthorized user and furthermore, to allow the electrical appliance to recognize and access the request quickly since the unique code for the request control unit is already stored in the memory.

Regarding claim 12, Cohen further teaches each of the converter device include a learning mode that enables the identification code (identification code for the button/command) to be obtained from the remote control and stored on the converter device 100 when the specific key (button on the remote control unit) is actuated and stored on the electrical appliance (see figures 2, 3A and col. 1, line 36-col. 2, line 7, col. 4, line 54-col. 5, line 7).

Regarding claim 13, Cohen further teaches the remote control transmitter is operable to activate and deactivate (on/off) the converter device 100 (see col. 2, lines 15-17).

Regarding claim 15, Cohen further teaches the learning mode as discussed in the rejection of claim 12. It is obvious that the learning mode is incorporated into an operating system of the television device in order to provide convenience for user to operate the system. However, neither Mino nor Cohen specifically discloses learning mode being triggered by touching a special button displayed on the display device of the jukebox. Official Notice is taken that using touch screen to display buttons that allow user to instruct the display device to perform different functions is well known in the art. For example, the user uses touch screen to perform system configuration, to perform data selection, etc. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mino and Cohen to use well-known teaching in the art in order to user to select data displayed on the screen easily.

Regarding claim 16, Mino in view of Cohen teaches a device as discussed in the rejection of claim 11. Cohen further discloses the remote control device has a plurality of keys (buttons) and operable to transmit a control code comprising an identification code (control code comprising identification code of the button/command) and at least one code of key that has been used (not available, or used for controlling the operation of another appliance (col. 4, lines 54-65). Cohen further discloses comparing the control

code comprising the identification code (for the button/control/command) sent by the remote control stored on the appliance to determine whether the appliance will respond to the codes from the remote control (if matched, perform the function. If not, the electrical appliance will not respond by display blink – col. 4, line 54-col. 55, line 7).

8. Claim 14 is alternatively rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mino (US 5,980,261) in view of Cohen (US 6,198,408) as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view of Ogasawara (US 6,543,052).

Regarding claim 14, Mino in view of Cohen teaches a system as discussed in the rejection of claim 11. However, neither Mino nor Cohen specifically discloses the remote control is operable to activate and deactivate a payment device.

Ogasawara discloses set top box 10 is controlled by a remote control unit (col. 2, line 15+). Remote control unit 14 includes a keypad 30 for allowing input of keypad data to the STB 10, the keypad data comprises a power key, various numeric or alpha character keys, function keys (col. 4, line 13+). STB 10 includes an IC card interface 88 configured to read information from and write information to an IC or smart card. This IC card and IC card interface 88, in combination, provide a suitable means for authenticating an STB 10 as a valid receiver of particular TV services. The IC card can also provide secured payment method (credit card, prepaid electronic cash, etc. – col. 8, line 21+). Necessarily, the remote control is operable to activate and deactivate a

payment device (IC interface 88) on the jukebox device (STB 10). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mino and Cohen to use the teaching as taught by Ogasawara in order to remotely control payment device.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Harada et al. (US 5,721,583) discloses interactive television system for implementing electronic polling or providing user requested services based on identification of users or of remote control apparatuses which are employed by respective users to communicate with the system.

Saitoh (US 5,444,499) discloses audio video apparatus with intelligence for learning a history of user control.

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Son P. Huynh whose telephone number is 571-272-7295. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher C. Grant can be reached on 571-272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SPH
October 20, 2005

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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